

THE MILLERS

The Millers are an example of violent extremists who do not fit neatly in one of our named violent extremist movements, and who draw from elements of more than one of the violent extremist ideologies we've discussed.

On 9 June 2014, Jerad and Amanda Miller shot and killed 2 police officers eating lunch at a shopping center and draped their bodies with a swastika—inferring the officers were neo-Nazis—and a “don't tread on me flag.” They also shot and killed an armed civilian who tried to stop them before Jerad was shot and killed by a police officer and Amanda shot herself. They hoped that their killing spree would start a revolution against the government.

The Millers Before the Attack:

- Jerad 31, Amanda 22
- They had been married for less than 2 years
- Jerad was a high school dropout, regularly fought with his family
- Regular encounters with law enforcement, including jail time for a variety of minor offenses including violating probation after drug use, failing to appear in court for traffic tickets, driving on a suspended license, and threatening the motor vehicle's office. He was convicted of a felony for vehicle theft in Washington State.
- Amanda was hopelessly devoted to Jerad and according to friends she would have done anything for him.

The Millers' Radicalization to Violence: Jerad's radicalization to violence played out via social media. He left behind years of Facebook rants and YouTube videos which clearly paint a picture of a disaffected young man prone to paranoia, steeped in conspiracy theories, and who became increasingly angry and held anti-government views.

- Many of his online rants were just conspiratorial in nature. For instance, he believed the US government staged the 9/11 attacks and used chemical sprays to control people.
- Overtime, his online posts shifted from conspiratorial to confrontational and even apocalyptic. He often wrote about his “awakening” and wondered why other people couldn't see the truth.
 - He debated and insulted his grandmother and father publically on social media.
- As time went on, his online posts began to illustrate that he had accepted violence as an acceptable form of resistance. These posts included rants about defending the constitution, fighting enemies, and resisting law enforcement.

- In March, a series of posts culminated in Jerad's promise to die for his convictions, he talked about martyrdom.
 - "The day of your judgment will come, not from my hand, for you will make me a martyr. Your judgment will come from those that will bite the hand that feeds them," he wrote. "Come for me, free me from your slavery. Give me the death a hero deserves. Help wake the masses to your corruption and treason. I f—ing dare you!"

- In April, he traveled to the Bundy ranch to join a protest against the federal government that included some violent militia extremists and sovereign citizen extremists, but they asked him to leave because they said his ideas were "too extreme." Rejection from the Bundy ranch appears to be the trigger point for Jerad, spurring him to attempt to start a revolution on his own.
 - He ranted about the Bundys on Facebook and YouTube, saying "How dare you ask for help and shun us dedicated patriots!(the) revolution is starting, here and now, and I will be a part of it."